



172

I hereby certify that this paper (along with any paper referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service on the date shown below with sufficient postage as First Class Mail, in an envelope addressed to:  
MS Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Dated: May 22, 2007

Signature: [Signature]  
(Darren M. Simon)

Docket No.:  
SONYJP 3.0-1210 DIV II  
(PATENT)

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Patent Application of:  
Koichi Maari

Application No.: 10/690,911

Group Art Unit: 3621

Filed: October 22, 2003

Examiner: C. L. Hewitt

For: METHOD OF CONTROLLING DIGITAL  
CONTENT DISTRIBUTION, A METHOD  
OF REPRODUCING DIGITAL CONTENT  
AND AN APPARATUS USING THE SAME

MS Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT AND  
CERTIFICATION PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(E)(1)**

Dear Sir:

It is respectfully requested that the references listed on the enclosed form be made of record and considered with respect to the above-referenced U.S. patent application. The reference was cited in an office action issued in connection with the applicant's corresponding Japanese application. A copy of the reference, and the office action, are enclosed. Submission of the present Information Disclosure Statement should not be taken as an admission that the cited reference is legally available prior art or that the same is pertinent or material.

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) (1), undersigned counsel hereby certifies that the item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application to the above-referenced patent application not more than three months prior to the filing of said statement.

Application No.: 10/690,911

Docket No.: SONYJP 3.0-1210 DIV II

In the event that any fee is due in connection with the present Information Disclosure Statement, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 12-1095.

Dated: May 22, 2007

Respectfully submitted,

By 

Darren M. Simon

Registration No.: 47,946

LERNER, DAVID, LITTENBERG,

KRUMHOLZ & MENTLIK, LLP

600 South Avenue West

Westfield, New Jersey 07090

(908) 654-5000

Attorney for Applicant(s)

LD-458\



Used in Lieu of PTO/SB/08A/B  
(Based on PTO 04-07 version)

|   |   |    |   |                          |                        |
|---|---|----|---|--------------------------|------------------------|
| Substitute for form 1449/PTO<br><br><b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE<br/>STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b><br><br>(Use as many sheets as necessary) |   |    |   | <b>Complete if Known</b> |                        |
|   |   |    |   | Application Number       | 10/690,911-Conf. #6383 |
|   |   |    |   | Filing Date              | October 22, 2003       |
|   |   |    |   | First Named Inventor     | Koichi Maari           |
|   |   |    |   | Art Unit                 | 3621                   |
|   |   |    |   | Examiner Name            | C. L. Hewitt           |
| Sheet   | 1 | of | 1 | Attorney Docket Number   | SONYJP 3.0-1210 DIV II |

| U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS |                       |   |                                |  |   |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|---|--------------------------------|--|---|
| Examiner Initials*    | Cite No. <sup>1</sup> | Document Number<br>Number-Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known) | Publication Date<br>MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or<br>Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where<br>Relevant Passages or Relevant<br>Figures Appear |
|                       |                       |   |                                |  |   |

| FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS |                       |  |                                |  |   |                |
|--------------------------|-----------------------|--|--------------------------------|--|---|----------------|
| Examiner Initials*       | Cite No. <sup>1</sup> | Foreign Patent Document<br>Country Code <sup>3</sup> -Number <sup>4</sup> -Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known) | Publication Date<br>MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or<br>Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines,<br>Where Relevant Passages<br>Or Relevant Figures Appear | T <sup>6</sup> |
|                          | BA                    | JP-08-314451   | 11-29-1996                     | Tokyo Shibaura Electric Co                         |   | ✓              |

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. <sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

| NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS |                       |   |                |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------|---|----------------|
| Examiner Initials*              | Cite No. <sup>1</sup> | Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published. | T <sup>2</sup> |
|                                 |                       |   |                |

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

|                    |  |                 |  |
|--------------------|--|-----------------|--|
| Examiner Signature |  | Date Considered |  |
|--------------------|--|-----------------|--|